

# MY GIP EXPERIENCE

## Engineering in Kyoto

### KRISH SHAH

**Major: Computer Engineering**

**Term Abroad: Summer 2023**

**Internship Title: AI Intern**

**Internship Company: Geek Guild**

#### What were your primary responsibilities as an intern?

As an intern, my primary responsibility was to create a customizable AI model. I was given the task to take the open source OpenAI's GPT2 model and modify it to make it more efficient and to have it be useful for Geek Guild's use case. Aside from this, I had to report daily on my work to my supervisor, as well as work on some open-source code that this company had published.

#### What was your biggest accomplishment at your internship?

My biggest accomplishment at my internship had to be the relations I made. Although, much of my work was hybrid and my supervisors were quite busy with meetings and sales, I was still able to create an interpersonal relationship with the CEO of the company. I would spend time with her outside of working hours, get to know her family, as well as meet her friends. Making these connections was a blast and definitely helped me through my internship.

#### What was your favorite part about living in Kyoto?

The culture. I was situated in Kyoto which is known as the culture capital of Japan. Every day there was something different to do culturally. Whether it be hiking to shrines, trying cultural food, or participating in festivals. Everything is so vibrant and rich there that there was never a dull day in my summer.

#### What is 1 thing you wish you knew before your program?

I wish I knew how little to pack for my trip. I left with 1.5 bags filled with clothes, food, and living items. Once I arrived in Japan, I realized I had made a huge mistake. I could find everything there and it just restricted me to not buying as many souvenirs. Pack light, you'll find everything in your host country!

#### What was the most memorable aspect of your internship experience?

The most memorable aspect of my internship had to be the people I met. Of course, working in a different country has its differences, but it still just feels like work. What really made me have fun was meeting all these college students part of the GIP program that I never would have met before. I can truly say I've made some lasting friendships because of this.

